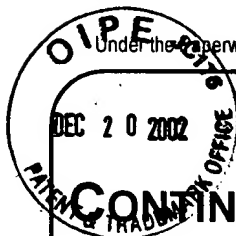


CUSTOMER NO: 004372

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
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**REQUEST**

FOR

**CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/696,013
Filing Date	October 26, 2000
First Named Inventor	YOSHIDA
Group Art Unit	1755
Examiner Name	C. Koslow
Attorney Docket Number	107400-00016

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to application Examination and Provisions Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**a. ☐ Previously submittedi. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_b. ☒ Enclosedi. ☒ Amendment/Replyii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☐ Other

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2. **Miscellaneous**a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for  
a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, fee deficiency or credit any overpayments, to  
Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referring to client-matter number 107400-00016i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)

D. Daniel Dzara, II

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

47,543

Signature

Date

December 20, 2002

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an  
envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark  
Office on:

Name (Print/Type)

Signature

Date

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.